



PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES UPDATE

Roxane Gomez
(916) 654-3685
Rgomez@dmhhq.state.ca.gov

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BASIS-32, NO LONGER A REQUIRED INSTRUMENT FOR THE ADULT PERFORMANCE OUTCOME



After consultation with representatives of the California Mental Health Director's Association (CMHDA) and the California Mental Health Planning Council (CMHPC), Dr. Stephen Mayberg, Director of the California Department of Mental Health (DMH) has decided that it should no longer be mandated that local mental health programs administer the BASIS-32 for the Adult Performance Outcome System. This decision was made for two main reasons.

The first reason is related to copyright issues and the cost of the BASIS-32. Several years ago the State DMH paid Medical Outcomes Trust over \$10,000 for each county to have a site license to use the BASIS-32 as part of its outcome system. This gave county and city programs the right to duplicate, format, and distribute the BASIS-32. However, recent changes to the licensing agreement will require each county site to pay an annual licensing fee for use of the BASIS-32.

The second, and perhaps most important, reason for dropping the BASIS-32 is related to the data that it generates. After a year of collecting data using the BASIS-32, it has become evident that these data are not particularly useful for measuring client outcomes. This is because clients tend to under report problems related to their symptoms and functioning on the BASIS-32. Additionally, the Statewide Quality Improvement Committee has generally found the MHSIP consumer survey (another tool in the Adult Performance Outcome System) to be much more informative and useful as a source for information that can be used to improve our services.

Eventually, a Client Information Face Sheet will be implemented that is closer to the model being developed for the Older Adult Performance Outcome System. This face sheet will provide critical information that will make the interpretation of outcomes much more complete and will greatly facilitate program evaluation and improvement.

Would you like to contribute to the California Development of Mental Health's Performance Outcomes Update (POU)? If you or your county are using performance outcome data to improve your programs, or if you have identified a novel way to analyze data to determine program effectiveness, and would like to share this with others, why not submit an article to the POU? It needs to be concise and kept under 800 words. Send your article to Roxane Gomez, CA Department of Mental Health, 1600 9th Street., Room 130, Sacramento, CA, 95814, or rgomez@dmhhq.state.ca.us.

UPDATES ON: THE ADULT PERFORMANCE OUTCOME SYSTEM

Ensuring Data Accuracy

The Research and Performance Outcome Development Unit (RPOD) encourages counties to carefully review their performance outcome data before they are uploaded to the State Department of Mental Health (DMH). If a county has contracted with a private vendor, it is still the county's responsibility to verify the accuracy of data collected by that vendor. Recently RPOD discovered that a private vendor was coding certain data incorrectly. As an example, although the values submitted for the MHSIP were within the valid range, the actual coding had been reversed. This caused the satisfaction outcomes for these counties to appear unfavorable. Coding problems such as this are very difficult to detect once the data have been sent to DMH. Before uploading data to DMH, please review the files that are being submitted to see if anything appears questionable.

Approximately one month following every Adult Performance Outcome data submission deadline, detailed reports for each instrument are sent to county mental health directors. Please review these reports as added assurance that the data you are submitting are correct. It is a county's responsibility to ensure that any system they use to report information to DMH does so in a way that is consistent with the relevant data dictionary. The current data dictionary for the Adult Performance Outcome Systems is available from the RPOD website at <http://www.dmh.cahwnet.gov/rpod>. Please keep in mind that the accuracy and timeliness of performance outcome data are considered when assessing county performance for such things as new grant money. Questions regarding data coding and formatting should be directed to Traci Fujita, Adult Performance Outcome System, at (916) 653-3300.



THE OLDER ADULT PERFORMANCE OUTCOME PILOT

The Older Adult Performance Outcome Pilot Committee met on January 11, 2001. All pilot counties have now completed second administration data collection and are preparing reports documenting their experiences. In general, most committee members thought that the pilot had been a useful learning process. For example, the committee's perception of what was feasible changed - moving from focusing on a large scale, multi-measure performance outcome system to a much simpler system. Additionally, it has become obvious that there is a need to obtain adequate, valid information about a client in order to interpret the instrument data. The current plan is for the clinician to provide this sort of information on a more extensive face sheet. Committee members made several suggestions for revisions to the draft face sheet in the January meeting. Once these have been incorporated, a short, semi-structured pilot will be conducted over a two-month period. Final recommendations regarding the composition of the Older Adult Performance Outcome System should be made in the next few months. The next Older Adult Committee Meeting is scheduled for February 26, 2001, at Sacramento DMH Headquarters, conference room 130, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM.



Research and Performance Outcome Development WEBSITE

<http://www.dmh.cahwnet.gov/rpod>

“In with the new and out with the old” as the saying goes ... reconstruction of the Research and Performance Outcome Development (RPOD) website is in progress. Big plans for the RPOD website and the following pages are receiving face-lifts: The Children and Youth Program, Adult Program, Older Adult Program, Download, and Internet Links. Additionally, the page currently labeled “Special Programs” will be revised and divided into three individual pages: Supportive Housing Programs, Supportive Housing Initiative Programs, and Dual Diagnosis Programs.

Each of the pages will have the following information:

- **What’s New** – latest updates and changes
- **Introduction** – the history of the program,
- **Survey Instruments** – instruments employed within each program
- **Data Collection and Reporting**
- **Current Reports, Analyses, and Presentations**
- **Frequently Asked Questions**

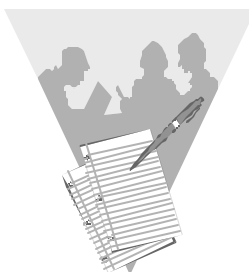


In each project page, comment forms will be available. Please comment on the accuracy of information in the website and what suggestions you may have for improvement.

One final comment: The website will be under **construction** through January. With this said, feel free to visit the RPOD website <http://www.dmh.cahwnet.gov/rpod>. If you have any questions, please call Rachel Luxemburg at (916) 654-0984.



RPOD



STAFF

Jim Higgins, Ed.D
Chief of Research and Performance
Outcomes Development

Candace Cross-Drew, Coordinator
Dual Diagnosis, Supportive Housing, and current
Supportive Housing Initiative Act (SHIA) Programs

Rachel Luxemburg,
Supportive Housing and SHIA Analyst
Interagency Data Coordinator

Karen Purvis, Coordinator
Traci Fujita, Analyst, Technical Support
Adult and Older Adult Programs

Sherrie Sala-Moore*, Coordinator
Brenda Golladay, Analyst
Children and Youth Program
*New SHIA Programs Coordinator

Roxane Gomez, TELEform Support
Performance Outcomes Update, Editor

RPOD Secretary, VACANT

Research and Performance Outcomes
Development
1600 9th Street, Room 130
Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: 916- 654-3685
Email: Rgomez@dmhhq.state.ca.gov

MAILING LABEL HERE

WE'RE ON THE WEB

<http://www.dmh.cahwnet.gov/rpod>

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Feb. 6 Childrens Task Force Mtg. (Sacramento Host Airport Hotel) 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- Feb. 15 Childrens Performance Outcomes **(DATA DUE!)**
- Feb. 26 Older Adult Performance Outcomes Mtg. DMH, Rm. 130 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
- Feb. 12 State Offices Closed

- Feb. 19 State Offices Closed



Children's Performance Outcomes System Update



DATA SUBMISSION REMINDER

The next data submission deadline for the Department of Mental Health (DMH) Child and Youth Performance Outcome System is **February 15, 2001**. Data for this reporting deadline will cover the period from July 1, 2000 to December 31, 2000. The Information Technology Web Services (ITWS) must be used to upload data files. Counties that are not authorized for this system will need to obtain authorization by visiting the DMH ITWS website at <http://www.dmh.ca.gov> and clicking on the ITWS menu option. Please direct any questions regarding the enrollment process for the ITWS to the DMH help desk at (916) 654-3117. For questions regarding the Child and Youth Performance Outcome System, please contact Sherrie Sala-Moore at (916) 651-6777, e-mail ssalamoo@dmhhq.state.ca.us, or Brenda Golladay at (916) 654-3291, e-mail bgollada@dmhhq.state.ca.us.

February 2001

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Childrens Task Force Mtg.	7	8	9	10
11	12 State Holiday	13	14	15 Childrens DATA DUE	16	17
18	19 State Holiday	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			